

Message Text

SECRET

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ORIGIN NODS-00

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /001 R

DRAFTED BY M:LEAGLEBURGER:JNP

APPROVED BY M:LEAGLEBURGER

S/S- MR. BRIDGES

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USDEL SECRETARY IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 180889 TOSEC 190004

NODIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, AEMR, US, LE

SUBJECT: BEIRUT EVACUATION

EAGLEBURGER HAS PASSED THE FOLLOWING TO DOBRYNIN :

BEGIN TEXT:

AT NOON ON JULY 21 OUR EMBASSY IN BEIRUT
INFORMED THE PLO REPRESENTATIVE THAT WE WISHED TO
PROCEED TO RESCHEDULE THE ROAD CONVOY WHICH HAD BEEN
PREVIOUSLY ARRANGED AND ASKED FOR CONFIRMATION THAT
THE CONVOY COULD TRAVEL TO DAMASCUS ON JULY 24. LATER
THAT DAY THE PLO REPRESENTATIVE REPLIED THAT SATURDAY
WAS NOT A GOOD DAY BECAUSE OF THE GENERALLY UNSTABLE
SECURITY SITUATION IN BEIRUT AND ELSEWHERE. IN
DISCUSSING THE PARTICULARS OF THE SECURITY SITUATION,
THE PLO REPRESENTATIVE CITED SUCH MATTERS AS PRESIDENT
ASSAD'S RECENT SPEECH WHICH HE CALLED UNHELPFUL, THE
FAILURE OF THE TRUCE AT TEL ZATAAR AND THE UNCERTAINTY
SURROUNDING THE PLO DELEGATION WHICH HAS DEPARTED

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FOR DAMASCUS FOR DISCUSSIONS WITH THE SYRIANS.

THE UNITED STATES CANNOT ACCEPT THAT ITS
CITIZENS ARE HELD AS HOSTAGES. THE UNITED STATES
IS PREPARED TO EVACUATE AMERICANS FROM BEIRUT BY
ANY MEANS AVAILABLE, EITHER BY LAND OR SEA AS WAS

DONE THE LAST TIME. IF THIS IS PREVENTED, THE PLO
WILL BE HELD RESPONSIBLE FOR ANY LOSS OF LIFE OR
INJURY TO AMERICANS. THE UNITED STATES WILL USE
WHATEVER MEANS ARE NECESSARY TO ACHIEVE THE
EVACUATION OF ITS CITIZENS AND TAKE WHATEVER ACTION
IS NECESSARY TO PROTECT AMERICAN LIVES. END TEXT ROBINSON

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

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